

# Technical Management



### Kimberly Jenkins Technical Management

NASA Kennedy Space Center

I work very closely with the Kennedy Space Center's managers to assess and improve the requirements, processes, and procedures used to ensure successful execution of the Center's programs and projects.

#### How I first became interested in this profession:

I had the opportunity to work at Kennedy Space Center as a summer intern. This experience inspired me to become an engineer.

#### What helped prepare me for this job:

Throughout my career at NASA, I have had many opportunities to improve myself, and to continue learning by taking advanced education courses, as well as on-the-job training. These experiences have allowed me to develop the skills I need to perform sound engineering and management decisions. In addition, I have taken courses in professional writing, public speaking, and effective leadership. The training, along with past work experiences have prepared me for my current job.

#### My role models or inspirations:

My role models are my parents. They have taught me valuable life lessons, provided me with the opportunity to obtain a good education, and allowed me the freedom to pursue my goals. They are my heroes.

#### My education and training:

· B.S. in Computer Science, Southern University

#### My career path:

13 years at Kennedy Space Center as:

- · Software Engineer
- Payload Integration Engineer
- Electrical/Software Systems Lead
- Project Management
- Technical Management

#### What I like about my job:

What I like most about my job is the opportunity to work with many people who are doing different kinds of projects. I am always learning and experiencing new things. That's what makes my job fun.

#### What I don't like about my job:

The NASA business system is very complex; therefore, it may take me a long time to try out new ideas and to reach the goals I set for myself. I wish we could simplify things, so that we could move more quickly and pursue new challenges and projects.

#### Areas of expertise:

- Strategic Planning
- Process Management
- Project Management

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## My advice to anyone interested in this occupation:

Get as much experience as possible in the areas that interest you. Find what you really want to do and enjoy doing it!